FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SUPERINTENDENT SHAFER APPLAUDS GOVERNOR MURPHY’S DECISION TO ALLOW IN-PERSON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS

District will move forward with virtual ceremonies on June 19th

In-person graduations to be held in July

PATERSON – Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer today applauded Governor Phil Murphy’s decision to allow in-person high school graduations this summer. She added that the district will move forward with its plan to hold virtual online ceremonies on June 19th and that district officials were currently working on plans for in-person graduations in July.

“I think the Governor Murphy did the right thing. He has always based his decisions on the advice of health care professionals and scientific data,” said Shafer. “It’s so important that we do this for the Class of 2020. They have gone through a lot. If you’ve read some of the emails that I’ve received from them, and received some of the phone calls, your heart would break.”

Shafer said that the guidance received from the governor’s office this week indicated that in-person high school graduation ceremonies could be held on or after July 6th. The ceremonies must be held outdoors with participants and guests wearing masks. Social distancing will be strictly enforced with seating marked to delineate the required distance between ceremony participants and guests. Graduates will be permitted to have no more than two guests at the ceremonies.

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